

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 JUSE-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 USSS-00 NEA-10 /086 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6745

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1440

DEPARTMENT PASS JUSTICE - FRANK NILAND AND JAMES ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UR

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATIONS AT SOVIET MISSION

1. MISOFF SPOKE WITH EDWARDS, US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SDNY, AND OBTAINED LATTER'S AGREEMENT TO PROSECUTE UNDER FEDERAL STATUTE IF THERE ARE REPETITIONS OF TYPE OF PLACARDS DESCRIBED USUN'S 1386.

2. USUN MISOFF AND FIELDS (L/SFP) MET WITH NYC POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING POLICE COMMISSIONER CODD. PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO REVIEW: A) SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION AND EXTENT TO WHICH SOVS HAVE CLEARLY BEGUN TO TAKE IT FAR MORE SERIOUSLY; B) TO DISCUSS PARTICULAR PROBLEMS INCLUDING QUESTION OF THREATENING PLACARDS.

3. DISCUSSION WENT WELL. POLICE UNDERLINED SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THEY TOOK THE PROBLEM INDICATING THAT, DESPITE DECREASE IN NY POLICE MANPOWER, AND VERY HEAVY PRESSURE FROM OTHER QUARTERS, THEY HAD INCREASED THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY; THAT THEY WERE MAKING A MAXIMUM EFFORT TO SOLVE THE SHOOTINGS; AND THAT THEY WERE WILLING
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TO UNDERTAKE NECESSARY POLICE ACTION AT DEMONSTRATIONS.

AS EXAMPLE OF INCREASED ACTIONS, POLICE NOTED THEY NOW ESCORT BUSES CARRYING RUSSIAN CHILDREN TO SCHOOL. SO FAR AS PLACARDS ARE CONCERNED, COMMISSIONER CODD SAID HE WAS UNWILLING TO MOVE TO ENFORCE THIS ASPECT OF FEDERAL STATUTE WITHOUT EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION FROM FEDERAL AUTHORITIES--SPECIFICALLY, A REQUEST FROM AN FBI AGENT TO ARREST A PICKETER. (PRE-SUMABLY, ANY FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ON THE SPOT WOULD MEET THE NEED).

4. AMB. SHERER HELD SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH INGRAM OF NY FBI OFFICE. INGRAM SAID NY OFFICE WOULD MAKE ARRESTS IF AUTHORIZED BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE EATING, IT LOOKS AS IF WE ARE GETTING THE NECESSARY COOPERATION ON THE SPOT IN NY TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION IF JUSTICE WILL INSTRUCT FBI TO PLAY MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN MAKING ARRESTS OR TRIGGERING ARRESTS BY NYPD. NEEDLESS TO SAY STRAINED RESOURCES OF NYCPD AND POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS STILL UNDERLINE NEED FOR INCREASED FEDERAL PRESENCE IN NY. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLICE PROTECTION RIGHTS, POLICE FORCES, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN01440
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760132-0562
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760485/aaaacuzc.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <04 MAY 2004 by CollinP0, REFER TO DOJ>; RELEASED <02 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMONSTRATIONS AT SOVIET MISSION
TAGS: PINS, PDIP, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006